

AMENDMENTS TO SPECIFICATION

In the specification:

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 15 with the following rewritten paragraph:

A1
As can be seen by inspection of FIG. 1, in order to couple back card 101 to the front card 100, the FE MAC 110 must be coupled to the front card 100 via a 32-bit wide PCI address data bus (PCI_AD) 108. Additionally, the PCI identification select connection (PCI_Idsel) 106, with resistor ~~106~~ 105 serially disposed therein, and serial bus 102 must also be coupled. Thus, a suitable physical connector capable of making this plethora of connections must be provided.

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Please insert the following after the paragraph at page 8, line 12:

A2
Figure 6A is a block diagram of a system having a single L1 device coupled to a L2/L3 device incorporating the present invention.

Figure 6B is a block diagram showing a plurality of L1 devices connected to a plurality of L2/L3 devices incorporating the present invention.

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Please replace the abstract with the following rewritten abstract:

A3
A method and apparatus for the detection and communication of a missing LAN or WAN compliant device is disclosed. ~~The present invention includes method and apparatus provide~~ a front card configured to accept a Fast Ethernet device on a PCI-compliant bus, and the front card includes a switch which is serially disposed on a ~~PCI-Isel~~ PCI_Idsel line corresponding to a particular channel of the front card. The switch is further configured to receive a sensing signal corresponding to said the

A3
Cont.
channel from said the device. The apparatus is configured to provide the PCI_Idsel line to the front card if the sensing signal is in a first state, and to provide a low potential to the front card if said the sensing signal is in a second state.
